Greetings Summit Participants,

We are looking forward to your participation in the BI Summit meeting on the morning of June 25 in the Patrick Henry Building in Richmond. You should have already received an electronic Summit invitation for your Outlook calendar. If you haven't already, please respond to the meeting invite as soon as possible.

The BI initiative team wanted to take this opportunity to share with you information related to Business Intelligence and its importance to the Commonwealth and business in general.

Making sound business decisions based on accurate and current information takes more than intuition. Business intelligence applications and technologies enable organizations to make more informed business decisions. Business intelligence applications can help agencies have a more comprehensive knowledge of the factors affecting their business, such as metrics on procurements, production, and internal operations.

Business Intelligence:

Gartner, Inc. is the world's leading information technology (IT) research and advisory company. Gartner Executive Programs performs an annual survey of 1,500 Chief Information Officers. In the 2008 edition of this annual survey of trends in information technology, "improving business processes" was the top business priority for the fourth consecutive year. Business intelligence was the top technology priority for the third year in a row. Please review the attached link for the complete article.
        (www.gartner.com/it/page.jsp?id=587309)

Business Intelligence Competency Center (BICC):

At the Summit, we will need your input about establishing a Business Intelligence Competency Center (BICC). Your initial Summit material has a summary description of the BICC.
(www.veap.virginia.gov/documents/BICC Summary Description 080421.pdf)

Gartner and other analytic organizations recommend that using a BICC to improve BI and business processes is a "better way." The following link is to a November 2007 article in *Business Performance Management* magazine, by Bill Hostmann, a Vice President and distinguished analyst at Gartner.
http://www.bpmmag.net/magazine/article.html?articleID=14915&Print=Y
You may find this article useful in understanding the role of a BICC in a BI initiative.

The BICC directly addresses the business process and people oriented needs for efficient and effective implementation of BI. Major national training institutions, such as Learning Tree, give courses in implementing BI through use of a BICC.
(www.learningtree.com:80/courses/901.htm)

Again, we look forward to your input at the Summit meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me at BICCINFO@veap.virginia.gov

Thanks,

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